

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): KATO, et al.
Serial No.: Reissue application of U.S. Patent No. 6,301,801
Filed: February 6, 2002
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND
OPERATING METHOD THEREFOR

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 AND 1.98

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

February 6, 2002

Sir:

Pursuant to Applicants' duty of disclosure, enclosed please find copies of documents to be considered by the Examiner during examination of the above-identified Reissue application. Also enclosed are Forms, substantially equivalent to Form PTO-1449, listing the enclosed documents.

Please note that the enclosed documents were provided in connection with prosecution of corresponding patent applications and/or patents in foreign countries. The enclosed documents also include decisions of various foreign patent offices in connection with the corresponding foreign applications and/or patents.

The enclosed documents are being submitted concurrently with the filing of the above-identified Reissue application. Clearly, requirements of 37 CFR

1.97 and 1.98 are satisfied, by present submission of the enclosed documents.


To the extent that the enclosed documents are not in English, it is respectfully submitted that requirements of 37 CFR 1.97(a)(3) are satisfied by English-language abstracts, or partial or full English translations, of enclosed documents, as indicated on the enclosed Forms listing the documents.

In view of all of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that all applicable requirements of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98 have been satisfied, in connection with each of the documents listed on the enclosed Forms. Accordingly, consideration of the listed documents, upon examination of the above-identified Reissue application, is respectfully requested.

To the extent necessary, Applicants petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to the Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (Case No. 520.30414R52) and please credit any excess fees to such Deposit Account.

Respectfully submitted,

ANTONELLI, TERRY, STOUT & KRAUS, LLP


William I. Solomon
Registration No. 28,565

Tel.: 703-312-6600
WIS/slk
Enclosures

Form PTO-1449	U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE	ATTY. DKT. NO.	SERIAL NO.
		520.30414R52	
		INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT (Use several sheets if necessary)	
		APPLICANT	
		KATO, et al.	
		FILING DATE	GROUP
		2-6-02	

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Subclass	Filing Date
	AA	4,836,905	6-6-89	Davis, et al.		
	AB	4,923,584	5-8-90	Bramhall, Jr. et al.		
	AC	4,643,629	2-17-87	Takahashi, et al.		
	AD	5,186,718	2-16-93	Tapman, et al.		
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Examiner Initial	Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Subclass	Translation /Abstract	
						Yes	No
	AM	60-246635	12-6-85	Japan		ABS	
	AN	1-298180	12-1-89	Japan		ABS	
	AO	2-94647	4-5-90	Japan		ABS	
	AP	64-500072	1-12-89	Japan			X
	AQ	2-61064	3-1-90	Japan			X
	AR	1-310553	12-14-89	Japan		ABS	
	AS	1-251734	10-6-89	Japan		ABS	
	AT	63-153270	6-25-88	Japan		FTR	

OTHER DOCUMENTS * (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	Terminological Dictionary of Semiconductor Equipment, Edited by Semiconductor Equipment Association of Japan, Published by Nikkan Kogyo Shinbun sha Inc. (1987) p. 183 (PTR)
	AV	Semicon News, April 1987 (pp. 38-43) (PTR)
	AW	VLSI Processing Equipment handbook, Ph. D. Kazuo Maeda (6-90), pp. 158 (PTR)
	AX	Latest trend of process automation (Realize, Inc.) (1986), pp. 202 and 203
	AY	Semicon News, Semicon/East '84, 12-1984, vol. 13., p. 199
	AZ	"Semiconductor World", 1990/9, Published by Press Journal, Inc., pp. 136-7 (FTR)
Examiner		Date Considered

* PTR (partial translation) - FTR (full translation) - ABS (abstract)

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						Yes	No
	AM	62-44571	2-26-87	Japan		ABS	
	AN	62-50463	3-5-87	Japan		ABS	
	AO	2-106037	4-18-90	Japan		ABS	
	AP	57-29577	2-17-82	Japan		ABS	
	AQ	62-207866	9-12-87	Japan		FTR	
	AR	59-094435	5-31-84	Japan		ABS	
	AS	63-57734	4-18-88	Japan			X
	AT	63-133521	6-6-88	Japan		FTR/ABS	

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	AU	Electronic Parts and Materials, 1989, vol. 28, no. 3, pp. 22-29
	AV	Solid State Technology, 10/90, pp. 35-41
	AW	Solid State Technology, 12/90, pp. 37-47
	AX	Semiconductor World, pp. 106-111, 9/90
	AY	Semiconductor World, pp. 122-125, 9/90
	AZ	Semiconductor World, pp. pp. 110-113, 10/89
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						Yes	No
	AM	62-216315	9-22-87	Japan		ABS	
	AN	60-52574	3-25-85	Japan		ABS	
	AO	4-82841	7-20-92	Japan			X
	AP	58-93321	6-3-83	Japan		ABS	
	AQ	3-19252	1-28-91	Japan		ABS	
	AR	2-52449	2-22-90	Japan		PTR/ABS	
	AS	58-95636	6-29-83	Japan			X
	AT	1-316957	12-21-89	Japan		ABS	

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	AU	Semiconductor World, pp. 52-53, 8/91
	AV	European Search Report, 1/92, re 91307625.3
	AW	European Search Report, 4/98, re 97111628.0
	AX	European Search Report, 3/99, re 981061625
	AY	JP application No. 3-234408, Notification of Reasons for Refusal, 1-28-97 (TR)
	AZ	JP application No. 2646905, Notification Reasons for Revocation 12-15-98 (TR)
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	AN	62-132321	6-15-87	Japan		PTR/ABS	
	AO	63-131123	8-26-88	Japan		PTR	
	AP	87/07309	12-3-87	WO			
	AQ	0381338	8-8-90	Europe			
	AR	0246453	11-25-87	Europe			
	AS	2-65252	3-5-90	Japan		PTR	
	AT	1-135015	5-26-89	Japan		ABS	

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	AU	JP application No. 2646905, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 7-21-99 (TR)
	AV	Decision for Patent Opposition, Opposition No. 10-70995 (10-99) (TR)
	AW	JP application No. 2-225321, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 10-15-96 (TR)
	AX	JP application No. 8-335329, Interview Record (TR)
	AY	JP application No. 8-335329, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-30-97 (TR)
	AZ	JP application No. 8-335329, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 4-7-98 (TR)
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AN	2-224242	9-6-90	Japan			PTR	
AO	58-108641	6-28-83	Japan			ABS	
AP	1-120811	5-12-89	Japan			ABS	
AQ	61-250185	11-7-86	Japan			ABS	
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AU	JP patent No. 2816139, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 11-21-99 (TR)
AV	Official Decision on Opposition to Grant of Patent 1999-71584 1-12-01 (TR)
AW	JP application No. 9-329873, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 7-14-98 (TR)
AX	JP application No. 9-329873, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 11-10-98 (TR)
AY	JP patent No. 2942527, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 6-27-00 (TR)
AZ	Decision on Opposition to the Grant of a Patent 2000-70844 1-12-01 (TR)
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	AU	JP application No. 11-001263, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 2-2-00 (TR)
	AV	JP application No. 2000-05449, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AW	JP application No. 2000-054450, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AX	JP application No. 2000-054451, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AY	JP application No. 2000-054452, Notification of Reasons for Refusal 9-6-00 (TR)
	AZ	EP91307625, Office Action 10-11-93
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	AU	EP91307625, Summons to attend oral proceedings 12-9-99
	AV	EP91307625, Communication of a notice of opposition 11-19-98
	AW	EP91307625, Interlocutory decision in Opposition proceeding, 5-16-00
	AX	EP91307625, Minutes of the oral proceedings, 3-9-00
	AY	EP97111628, Office action 12-1999
	AZ	EP97111628, Office action 11-2000
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	AU	EP97111628, Office action 6-2001
	AV	EP98106162, Office action 11-2000
	AW	EP98106162, Office action 6-2001
	AX	KR application No. 14984/91, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection (TR)
	AY	KR application No. 184682-00-00 Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent 10-4-2000 (TR)
	AZ	KR application No. 184682, Trial Decision 8-1-00 (TR)
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OTHER DOCUMENTS * (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AU	KR application No. 46756/98, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection 1-20-99 (TR)
	AV	KR application No. 212874, 12-22-00, Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent
	AW	KR application No. 46757/98, Preliminary Notice of Ground(s) for Rejection 1-20-99 (TR)
	AX	KR application No. 212819, 12-22-00, Notice of Decision on Opposition to the Granted Patent (TR)
	AY	JP patent No. 3145359, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
	AZ	JP patent No. 3145375, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
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	AU	JP patent No. 3145375, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
	AV	JP patent No. 3147230, Notice of Reasons for Revocation 12-18-01 (TR)
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CLAIM FOR PRIORITY

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
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February 6, 2002

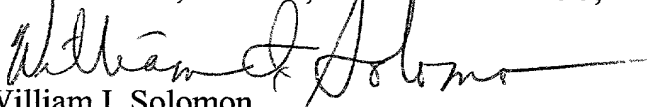
Sir:

Under the provisions of 35 USC §119 and 37 CFR §1.55, Applicants hereby claim the right of priority based on Japanese Patent Application No. 2-225321, filed August 29, 1990.

The certified copy of the above-referred-to Japanese Patent Application was filed on August 29, 1991 in prior application Serial No. 07/751,951, filed August 29, 1991.

Respectfully submitted,

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WIS/slk